

### **Listing and Amendment of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for performing digital recording and playback~~, comprising steps of:

enabling a user to select a recording title stored on a digital storage medium in a first program chain for password protection;

receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title;

storing said password on said digital storage medium ~~in a same~~ said first program chain ~~as with~~ said selected recording title; and

~~requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title~~

storing menu data representing a password menu screen on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the a~~ step of ~~storing menu data representing a password menu screen~~ at least one command on said digital storage medium in said first program chain.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said ~~menu data is stored in a different program chain than said password and said selected program title~~ at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1, wherein said first and second program chains are according to DVD specifications.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, ~~further comprising the step of storing at least one command on said digital storage medium that enables display of said password menu screen~~ wherein said at least one command includes a PRE command according to DVD specifications.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[6]]~~ 1, ~~wherein said password menu screen is displayed responsive to a user's attempt to playback~~ further comprising a step of requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title.

8. (Currently Amended) A digital recording and playback apparatus, comprising:  
interface means for interfacing said digital recording and playback apparatus with a digital storage medium; and

control means for enabling a user to select a recording title stored on said digital storage medium in a first program chain for password protection, receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title, ~~and causing said password to be stored on said digital storage medium in a same~~ said first program chain ~~as with~~ said selected recording title, and causing menu data representing a password menu screen to be stored on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain.

9. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

10. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said control means further causes ~~menu data representing a password menu screen~~ at least one command to be stored on said digital storage medium in said first program chain.

11. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said ~~menu data is stored in a different program chain than said password~~

~~and said selected program title~~ at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted.

12. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim [[11]] 8, wherein said first and second program chains are according to DVD specifications.

13. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said ~~control means further causes at least one command that enables display of said password menu screen to be stored on said digital storage medium~~ at least one command includes a plurality of commands.

14. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 13, wherein said ~~control means enables display of said password menu screen responsive to a user's attempt to playback said selected recording title~~ plurality of commands comprise PRE commands according to DVD specifications.

15. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim [[14]] 11, wherein said control means further requires said password to be input responsive to said password menu screen before playing back said selected recording title.

16. (Currently Amended) A digital storage medium, comprising:  
a plurality of ~~reserved~~ data fields; and  
~~a plurality of unreserved data fields including a first program chain for a recording title selected by a user; and~~

wherein said data fields comprise a first program chain further includes for storing a selected recording title and a user-assigned password for said selected recording title, and input of said user-assigned password is required before playing back said selected recording title a second program chain different from said first program chain for storing menu data representing a password menu screen.

17. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 16, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

18. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim 16, ~~further comprising a second program chain for a password menu screen~~ wherein said first program chain also stores at least one command.

19. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim ~~[[18]]~~ 16, wherein said first and second program chains are according to DVD specifications.

20. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim 18, wherein said ~~password menu screen prompts input of said user-assigned password and is displayed responsive to an attempt to playback said selected recording title~~ at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted, and input of said user-assigned password is required before playing back said selected recording title.